

Urban District Council

OF

**FLOCKTON.**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

*FOR THE YEAR 1903.*



WAKEFIELD :

J. McInnes, Printer, Thompson's Yard, Westgate.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

OF THE

Urban District of Flockton.

FOR THE YEAR, 1903.

—————:O:—————

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF FLOCKTON.

—————:O:—————

GENTLEMEN,

I am again pleased to present to you a favourable Report on the health of your District during 1903. We can again congratulate ourselves on a remarkably low death-rate—much less than the average for West Riding rural districts—and on a high birth-rate—one higher than the average for England and Wales. The County Medical Officer in his recent report on Flockton mentions this fact, which is still

further marked this year. I should here like to point out, with reference to his report, that the inspection was made at the worst time of an exceptionally wet year, and, though the ashpits and privies were undoubtedly in a bad condition, that they are rarely in a like state, and that it was due greatly to the fact that their contents could not previously be led on the land by the farmers. I also wish to point out to you that of his recommendations I had advised in 1897 that Haigh Lane Sewerage be piped away; also in 1899 and 1901 I advised that byelaws be adopted under Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order; and that in 1898 and 1901 I recommended New Byelaws, and also regulations under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act. I do not, however, consider that public scavenging is at all necessary in Flockton's present circumstances, but I certainly think a proper tip for rubbish should be provided; and I have warned several Sanitary Inspectors about the deposit of ash-pit refuse in the lanes. I also think that in cases where ashpits cannot be emptied directly into the carts and must be first wheeled into the road, it should be made compulsory that it be done at night, and disinfectants be used.

**Birth Rate.**—The number of Births was 42—males 22 and females 20. This, which equals 1902, is the highest number recorded for ten years, and gives a birth-rate of 33.3 per 1000.

There were no illegitimate births. I am pleased to note that during the past ten years out of 372 births there were only six illegitimate.

		Males.		Females.		Total.
1st Quarter	...	6	...	4	...	10
2nd „	...	7	...	8	...	15
3rd „	...	4	...	6	..	10
4th „	...	5	...	2	...	7
		—		—		—
Total	...	22		20		42

**Death Rate.**—Of the 13 deaths registered 9 were males and 4 females. Of these 13 eleven happened during the first half of the year, only two being in the third quarter, and none in the last quarter. I do not recollect that in the past 15 years any quarter was quite a blank.

The Death Rate was 10.2 per 1000, or including one Flockton case which died in the West Riding Asylum, it was 11 per 1000.

		Males.		Females		Total.
1st Quarter	...	2	...	3	...	5
2nd „	...	5	...	1	...	6
3rd „	...	2	...	0	...	2
4th „	...	0	...	0	...	0
		—		—		—
Total	...	9		4		13

Of these deaths five were of Infants under one year, and three of persons aged over 65. A noticeable feature is that four deaths were due to heart disease. I am glad to point out that the number of deaths from Tubercular Diseases has been diminishing for the last few years, though from five to ten years ago it was exceptionally high.

**Infantile Death Rate.**—The five deaths of infants under one year give an Infantile Death Rate of 119 per 1000 registered births, which is just equal to our average for the five years 1898-1902.

**Zymotic Death Rate.**—There was one death from Enteric Fever giving a Zymotic Death Rate of .7 per 1000.

I find that in the last ten years Flockton has only had seven deaths from Zymotic Diseases, and of these seven Whooping Cough accounted for four.

**Infectious Diseases.**—Eight cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year. Of these, two were cases of enteric fever, two of scarlet fever, and four of erysipelas. A few cases of measles occurred in December; much whooping cough in March; a few of diarrhoea in October and December; and influenza was especially noticed in January, February, June, October, and December.

Very few Nuisances were reported during the year, and I note that two troublesome cases have at last been thoroughly dealt with.



**Water Supply.**—I have twice during the year tested the town's water for lead and nitrates, and find it quite free. I have had fewer complaints of inadequate flow than in previous years. The amount of water consumed was 2,576,000 gallons, giving a daily average per head of 5.6 gallons—a slight increase on last year.

For this report I have estimated the population of the district to be 1265.

I enclose the Report of the Sanitary Inspector, and whilst thinking that the salary of that Officer is inadequate, I consider that a little more attention is required at the Sewerage Tanks, so that the County Inspectors may not again find the whole discharging into the beck untreated. When the Infectious Hospital is ready the Sanitary Inspector will probably find his work much increased. You are no doubt aware that if the salary is of a certain amount the County Council refund one-half.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. SMITH.

Stoneleigh, Middlestown,  
Near Wakefield,  
17th February, 1904.

**Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1903  
and Previous Years,**

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGIS- TERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.			Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births re- gistered.	Number.	Rate*			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1894	1225	39	31·8	5	128	13	10·6	0	13	10·6
1895	1230	39	31·7	8	205	23	18·7	0	23	18·7
1896	1235	31	24·8	6	194	25	20	0	25	20
1897	1240	36	28·8	6	166·6	17	13·6	0	17	13·6
1898	1250	29	23·2	5	172·4	18	14·4	0	18	14·4
1899	1250	34	26·1	3	88·2	20	13·3	0	20	15·3
1900	1250	39	30	9	230·7	23	17·6	0	23	17·6
1901	1250	41	33	4	97·5	12	9·6	0	12	9·6
1902	1260	42	32·3	8	190	14	10·7	0	14	10·7
Avera's for years 1893- 1902	1243·3	36·6	29·1	6	162·4	18·3	14·5	0	18·3	14·5
1903	1265	42	33·3	5	119	13	10·2	1	14	11

\* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 11 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1,065.

Total population at all ages, 1,251

Number of inhabited houses, 265

Average number of persons per house, 1·7

} At Census of 1901.

**Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the  
year 1903.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Un- der 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and up- wards.
Diphtheria ...	1				1		
Erysipelas ...	4					4	
Scarlet Fever ..	2	1	1				
Enteric Fever ...	2				1	1	
Totals ...	9	1	1		2	5	

Isolation Hospital—Kirkburton Joint.



**Causes of, and Ages at, Deaths during Year 1903.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Enteric Fever .....	1				1		
Bronchitis .....	2	1				1	
Pneumonia.....							1
Premature Birth.....	1	1					
Heart Diseases.....	4				1	1	2
All other causes .....	5	3	1				1
All causes.....	13	5	1		2	2	3
							1

## FLOCKTON SANITARY DISTRICT.

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Medical Officer of Health     ...     J. A. SMITH     ..     Salary £20.  
 Sanitary Inspector     ...     W. H. KAYE     ...     Salary £2 10s.  
 What other position does the Sanitary Inspector fill?     Road Surveyor.

### WATER SUPPLY—

Quality, Good.     Action on Lead, None  
 Any extensions or change during 1903?     7 Houses connected.  
 Any inadequacy in any part?     No.

### SEWERAGE—

Is the district systematically sewered?     Partly.  
 Is rainfall excluded?     No.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

System adopted, Bacterial Beds.     Any extensions in 1903?     None.

### SCAVENGING—

Are the privy-middens, ash-places, etc., cleansed by Sanitary Staff,  
 by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?     Owners and  
 Tenants.

Number of each type of receptacle :—Open privy middens, nearly  
 all.     Covered privy middens, few.     Pail or tub closets, none.  
 W.C., two.

### ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Acts adopted during 1903 (or parts), none.  
 Any diseases added to Notification schedule e.g. Measles, Chicken-  
 pox, &c.?     None.  
 Any system of voluntary notification of Phthisis?     None.

### BYE-LAWS—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1903? (A) Under the Public  
 Health Act, 1875.     None.     (B) Under the Public Health Acts  
 (Amendment) Act, 1890.     None.

### ISOLATION HOSPITAL—

Name and Situation of Hospital for Small-pox cases, Kirkburton  
 Joint.     Name and Situation of Hospital for general infectious  
 diseases.     Kirkburton Joint.

Does the Sanitary Authority provide antitoxin (gratis) for  
 diphtheria cases?     No.

## SCHOOLS—

No. closed during 1903 on account of sickness, none.

Any ailment or contagious disease associated particularly with school life during 1903? Measles and Whooping Cough.

## DWELLINGS—

Number of Houses built during 1903, 3. General character, Through Houses.

Any houses unfit for habitation? No.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses? No.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts? None.

Is house-to-house inspection systematically made? Yes.

Are records kept? Yes.

## NUISANCES—

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1902, 0.

Total No. of Legal Notices served for Abatement of Nuisances during 1903, none.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings, none.

No. of Closets newly constructed during 1903, 9. Kinds, covered privy middens.

WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE  
FOLLOWING MATTERS?

Seizures of Unsound Food, none.

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, none.

Has there been any poisoning during 1903 attributable to arsenical beer? No.

Smoke observations taken, none.

Burial Grounds—No. in District, 2. Any need for extension? No.

Mortuaries—No. in District (A) for accidents, none. (B) other, none.

## BIRTHS DURING 1903—

Males, 22. Females, 20. Total, 42.

Number illegitimate, included in the above, 0.

Number of Still Births (not included), not known.

DEATHS DURING 1903—

- (1) GROSS DEATHS, i.e., Total actually registered in the district, without any correction, 13.
- (2) NETT DEATHS on which the rates are calculated. Males, 9 ; Females, 4.

Number uncertified, included in the above, none.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT, AND SUG-  
GESTIONS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :—

New Bye-Laws. Public tip for ash-pit rubbish. Regulations for Cowsheds and Dairies.

## NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S REPORT.



Number of Nuisances Reported	...	...	7
„ „ Abated	...	...	7
„ „ In hand	...	...	1

### NUMBER OF NEW CLOSETS BUILT IN 1903.

John Wood, Esq.	...	...	1
Mrs. Stansfield's Property	..	..	2
Co-operative Stores	...	..	4
Crow Tree Farm, Flockton Moor	...	..	2
			—
Total	...	...	9

Yours truly,

*W. H. KAYE, Inspector.*



